



Annual Report 2020

IAH SOCIO-HYDROGEOLOGY NETWORK (IAH-SHG)

1. INTRODUCTION

IAH-SHG was officially launched as a new network of the International Association of Hydrogeologists at the International IAH congress held in Malaga (Spain) in September 2019. The goal of it is to promote the integration of social sciences into hydrogeology and to include local perspectives into hydrogeological assessment by developing concepts how inter- and transdisciplinary cooperation and research can be carried out. Furthermore, IAH-SHG aims to highlight the importance of science communication and to serve as a platform for hydrogeologists who already work at the interface between society and groundwater.

2. IAH-SHG STRUCTURE AND STEERING COMMITTEE

The Network is currently chaired by Viviana Re (Italy) and co-chaired by Theresa Frommen (Germany) and Shrikant Limaye (India), who form the IAH-SHG Steering Committee.

In 2020, a call was made to ask all interested IAH-Members to join the Network, and a dedicated section (Network Members) was added in the website. This is the first step to create connections among those working at the interface between groundwater and society, and to start a group for discussion about possible initiatives.

Based on the members response, in 2021 we will consider adding new members to the Steering Committee and to create dedicated Working Groups and tasks to involve all members willing to actively contribute to IAH-SHG development.

3. 2020 ACTIVITIES

Below, a detailed list of all the IAH-SHG initiatives undertaken in 2020 is reported.

- **WEBSITE LAUNCH:** <https://sociohydrogeo.iah.org/>

The official Network Website was launched in June and since then is constantly updated by Theresa Frommen and Viviana Re, with the technical support of Kellie Nicholson.



- **SPECIAL SESSION** at the **Geoethics and Groundwater Management Congress** (online congress – May 18-22)

The special session “**Socio-Hydrogeology to support ethical groundwater management**” chaired by Viviana Re saw the participation of many IAH members, whose contribution will be included in the Conferences Proceedings ((<https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030593193>) to be published in early 2021.

- **LAUNCH OF THE SPECIAL ISSUE** “Socio-Hydrogeology in Groundwater Resources Assessments and Management” – Guest Editors: Viviana Re and Theresa Frommen

The special issue was launched upon invitation by the journal **Water** in June 2020 and will close end of April 2021.

IAH-SHG chairs will contribute to the special issue with an introductory paper on the advances and challenges in Socio-Hydrogeology.

More information on the special issue status can be found at:

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/water/special_issues/Socio_Hydrogeology_Groundwater

- The **Steering Committee Meeting** was held via Skype on 31st of July
- **LAUNCH OF THE SURVEY ON “GENDER IN THE GROUNDWATER SECTOR”** in collaboration with **UNESCO-WWAP**

GENDER & GRUNDWASSER
Wo stehen wir?

ACQUE SOTTERRANE & QUESTIONI DI GENERE
A che punto siamo?

ジェンダーと地下水
ここはどこ?

CİNSİYET & YER ALTI SULARI
Neredeyiz?

GENRE ET EAUX SOUTERRAINES
Où en sommes-nous?

GENDER & GROUNDWATER
Where are we?

GÊNERO E ÁGUA SUBTERRÂNEAS
Onde estamos?

An initiative promoted by

Socio-Hydrogeology Network

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

World Water Assessment Programme



The aim of this survey is to obtain gender-specific information on people working in the groundwater sector. We want to understand if and to what extent gender sensitivity is already present in the different areas of the groundwater sector. The feedback received will help us to further develop our research on gender issues in the groundwater sector. Results will be published by 2021.

The survey was translated in different languages with the help of many IAH and IAH-SHG members who offered their time and help for the success of the initiative. Kellie Nicholson provided the technical support. The survey, open until end of January 2021 is available at

<https://sociohydrogeo.iah.org/thematic-areas/gender-diversity-and-inclusion/groundwater-and-gender>

- **IAH-SHG Newsletter**

In December 2020, an update of all the initiatives promoted by the Network was sent to all IAH-SHG members, with an invitation for a more active involvement in 2021.



4. ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2021

- In February, Viviana Re and Ana Maciel de Carvalho as promoters of the special session on Gender and Groundwater at the IAH congress 2020/2021 in Brazil, have been invited to host a webinar in the frame of the **IAH2020 online initiatives**.



- A **Working Group on “Gender, Diversity and Inclusion”** will be created to foster the discussion and the realization of new initiatives, giving the rising interest in these topics.
- IAH-SHG will host the **special session** “Socio-Hydrogeology – How can hydrogeology be inspired from other disciplines/outside science?” at **IAH2021** in Brussel (Belgium).
Abstract submission deadline: 21/03/2021; Info
at: <https://iah2021belgium.org/programme/sessions-topics/>
- At the end of 2020, IAH-SHG was invited by IAH-Executive to be the main point of contact between IAH and the **International Association for Promoting Geoethics (IAPG)**

January 2021

Viviana Re, Theresa Frommen and Shrikant Limaye